

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW TRANSVAAL FISH OF THE FAMILY CYPRINIDAE.

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GENUS LABEO.

Cuv. Règne Anim. ii (1817); Cuv. and Val. Hist. Poiss. xvi (1842); Heckel, Russegger's Reise, ii (1843); Günth. Cat. Fish. vii (1868); Bouleng. Poiss. Bass. Congo (1901), Fish. Nile (1907), Cat. fr.-water Fish. Africa, I (1909).

Abrostomus, A. Smith, Ill. Zool. S. Africa, Fish (1841).

Tylognathus, Heckel, l.c.; Günth., l.c.

Rohitichthys, Bleek. Atlas Ichth. iii (1863).

Labeo transvaalensis, sp. n.—In giving the following description, which is based on two specimens caught by Mr. T. Jenkins in the Crocodile River, I regret that an examination of type specimens of *Labeo rosae* Steind. has not been possible; however, closely as this specimen of *Labeo* agrees with the description of the above-mentioned Transvaal fish given by Mr. Boulenger* in his Monograph of the African Fishes, I am satisfied that the differences between the two are sufficiently patent to warrant the separation of this Cyprinid from any known species.

Mr. Hewitt, of the Albany Museum, Grahamstown, first recognized this fish as being distinct from *Labeo rosae* by a comparison of the size of the eye. In *Labeo rosae* the eye is four to four and a half times in the length of the head, about half the interorbital width; in *Labeo transvaalensis* the same measurements are five and one-third respectively. Another outstanding feature is that the pectoral is relatively smaller than that of *Labeo rosae*. If any faith can be pinned in colour of spirit specimens then *Labeo transvaalensis* is generally goldenish; the colour of *Labeo rosae* is given as: "Grey above, silvery white beneath."

Description: Body rather strongly compressed. Total length, excluding caudal, two and three-fifths to three times depth. Head four and a half times in total length; its width about two-thirds its length. Snout rounded. Eye lateral in middle of head, five times in length of head, one-third interorbital width. Width of mouth with lips two and three-quarter times in length of head. Inner surface of lower lip without papillary striations or transverse plicae; both lips with several rows of conical papillae, the outer row of the upper lip longer than the rest, and forming a marked fringe; rostral flap entire, with slight incipient crenulations. Barbel small, somewhat obscured by the folds of the skin. Tubercles on snout small, not conspicuous as in *Labeo cylindricus* Peters, most with crater-like scars.

* G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., Catalogue of the Fresh-water Fishes of Africa in the British Museum. Vol. I, 1909, p. 312.

Dorsal III 11-12; notched; equally distant from anterior border of eye and caudal; longest ray a little longer than head. Anal III 5; just fails to reach root of caudal. Pectoral shorter than head, not nearly reaching root of pelvic, first ray of which falls below third and fourth branched rays of dorsal (length of pectoral to head 9-10:11).

Caudal deeply notched and crescentic.

Caudal peduncle as long as deep.

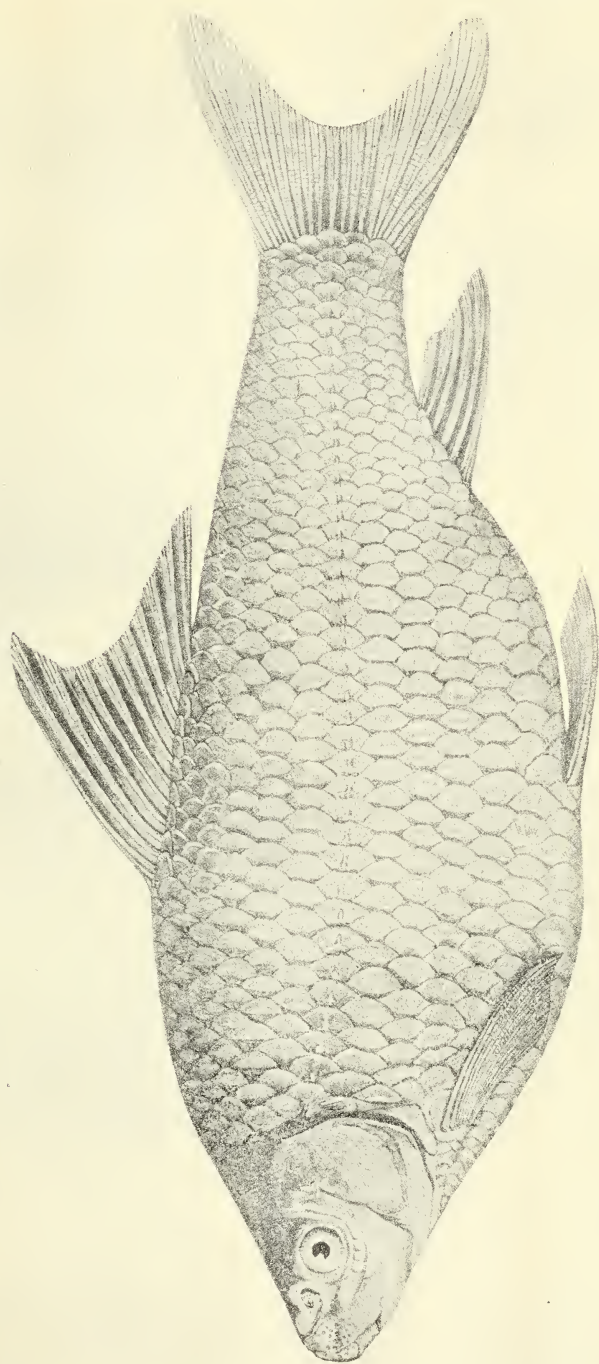
Scales, 39 - 40 $\frac{7\frac{1}{2}}{8\frac{1}{2}}$, e.g. 5 between lateral line and root of pelvic: 18 round caudal peduncle.

Colour: Grey above; flanks lighter, silvery to goldenish-grey; cheeks and below generally goldenish white; fins light grey, the paired tinged with gold below at base.

Total length, excluding caudal, 247 mm.

Locality: Crocodile River, Rustenburg District, Transvaal.

Type and co-type in the Transvaal Museum.



P.A.M. DEL.

LABEO TRANSVAALENSIS SP. N.